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must make up your mind to one of two things—either consent to a temporary suspension of payment, which, from an examination of your affairs, I am satisfied would literally be but temporary; or you must let me go to some of your friends—old Allan, for instance—once satisfied as to your solvency, I think he would venture to—

“Richard Winton, if you mean to insult me, say so; what, make *that* mean, miserly, pitiful fellow, lord and master of my private affairs!—lay them and myself under the feet of any one here!—no, I would rather die a dozen deaths!

“How much better that you should live a dozen lives, or at least, make the best of the one you have.” Inwardly indignant at the cowardly selfishness thus manifested, yet carefully suppressing all signs of such indignant feeling, Richard was fain to give in to the current of circumstances, and hope that, as in a few hours one of the alternatives he had proposed must be adopted, necessity might be found a match even for obstinacy.

“Two o’clock struck—two more hours, thought he, and we shall have fifteen to breathe in; all this delay comes of trusting that foolish lad—and if the whole truth must be confessed, Richard completed his mental soliloquy by some hard strictures on poets and poetry. The thread of his reflections was broken by a sudden trampling sound, as of a quantity of persons running at full speed; in a few seconds carriage wheels were heard also, and before he could well reach the street, a chaise and four had drawn up to the bank-door, and the crowd round it set up a hearty shout. Opening the door from the inside, and without waiting for the steps to be let down, the first person who sprung out was William Sydney, looking as if just risen from his coffin. The next, who descended with somewhat less impetuosity, was a stranger; the third, who needed both steps and assistance, for he was ironed, was the delinquent clerk, believed to be on his way to America; the remaining and heaviest part of the carriage-contents were too small, strong, deal chests. These, with the passengers, were quickly deposited in the bank parlour. The father fell on his son’s neck, burst into tears, and sobbed aloud. Richard Winton, before he asked a single question, handed the youth a large glass of Madeira—‘Drink that, and then tell us all—you are in time.’

“Thank heaven!—thank heaven!—I have travelled in torture, fearing I might be too late; father, —’s were satisfied without the deeds, but there was some delay in getting the accommodation ready—no matter why—it is here; then, by the most miraculous chance—

“Providence, William.

“Yes, Providence, Mr. Winton—I got a clew to the haunt of that wretched man there; the report of his having sailed from this port in the Juno, was all a feint; he set off to take shipping from London, where he had—but no, I am sworn to secrecy as to the *how* I got news of him—however, no matter, he was on shipboard, waiting for a wind. This was all I knew, and the place he was bound for; I procured a search-warrant, and we examined twenty vessels before we found him; so disguised, Sir, painted and stuffed, that but for his agitation—for he shook through straw and yellow ochre like a coward as he is—even I might have been deceived; however, there he is, and most of his booty too; some of it he

had abstracted—some of it I was forced to employ, but I did my best—wrong, perhaps, in not sending a clerk from —’s with their remittances, only I wanted to bring all, and only found, too late, that I should be at least twelve hours after the mail; we have travelled throughout with four horses, driven like furies, paid like princes, neither eat, drank, slept, scarcely spoken; and now I should like to go to bed for seven days and nights; take care of Mr. Higson (he was a police officer)—that’s my story.”

This is excellent: throughout the book, the readers will find much to instruct and elevate the mind, while it is at the same time deeply interested and amused.

*Third Report from the Select Committee on the Affairs of the East India Company. Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, April, 1830.*

Few readers of a literary periodical like ours, are aware of the enormous extent of laborious enquiry necessary to be made, in order to supply the materials for its formation. The work itself can only shew what has been selected; a small portion indeed, when compared with what has been rejected either as unworthy of notice, or as not coming within the scope of the publication. Who would have thought that an Editor should find the perusal of parliamentary papers, as necessary as poetry, history, or romance? Yet, so it is. The two houses of parliament are now the regular publishers of a sessional periodical, and render themselves therefore, (with a due saving of their dignity,) equally amenable to the tribunal of literary criticism, as the ephemeral author of the Devil’s Walk; and the sole question to be decided on by an Editor is, whether the subjects on which they treat are such as should be brought by him under the consideration of his readers. With respect to by much the greater part of the contents of these folios, we confess we have very little trouble. Politics, generally so called, not being one of our objects, the process by which we dispose of this class of publications is sufficiently summary, and therefore when the number whose title is above announced was laid with some others before us on our breakfast table, we were preparing, after turning over its leaves with no small degree of nonchalance, to deposit it among a pile of its fellows, in a corner whence it was not likely soon to be disturbed, unless by our grimalkin in a frisky humour, cutting figures on its dusty covers with her tail, when our eye was accidentally caught by a “table exhibiting a brief view of the statistics of China proper, &c.” and we found, upon more minute enquiry, that the document contained a large quantity of minute and extended details of that empire, highly interesting, not merely to the sellers and drinkers of tea, though this alone is something, but to all who would wish to make themselves acquainted with the interior of a region so highly lauded, yet so little known.

China and Europe are the two most opposite communities in the world, not merely in geographical position, but in every thing that constitutes nationality: both highly civilized, far above the average of any of the nations surrounding each, yet of a species of civilization singularly different; the opposition of habits, customs, manners, descending into the minutiae of every day particulars in a manner,

and a direction of divergency almost ludicrous. Our relative ideas of each other’s importance, are regulated by the same standard of opposition; an ancient Chinese map represents the celestial empire as occupying the whole of the sheet on which it is drawn, with the exception of one corner which is set apart for all the rest of the world; in an ancient European map of the world, on the other side, we look in vain for China, or find it perhaps a solitary name, as a part of Terra Incognita. We live now in better times, our globes or maps are not disgraced with distorted drawings of that great nation, and its neighbouring territories, its geographical positions, are laid down with tolerable precision, but as to the interior, with the exception of the general lines of deviation of some of its larger rivers, and the bearings of some of its more important positions, our knowledge, it must be confessed, is very inadequate, either to the absolute magnitude of that wonderful empire, or to its relative importance as affecting our extended, and still extending commercial and political relations.

The information given in the evidence now before us, fills up several of these chasms. It comes also in an authenticated form, from individuals well acquainted with the particulars they detail, deeply interested in the enquiry, and placed in a situation in which they know that a searching eye is watching over their relation, active to catch, and eager to expose any mis-statement or fallacy. The accounts given by them may therefore be safely relied upon, as to general fidelity and accuracy.

The real amount of the population of China has been long one of the unsolved problems in geography. Though the commonly received statements were usually considered to be over-rated, yet it was deemed an indisputable fact that the total, after every reasonable deduction had been made, was far beyond that of any European country, or, indeed, of any, with which we are acquainted. From the statistical table already alluded to, it appears, that the whole population of China proper, exclusive of Tartary and the dependent provinces, amounts to 141,470,000 souls, which when compared with the area or surface of the country, gives an average of 103 souls for every square mile. Let this be compared with the known averages of some other countries.

	Souls.
China, per square mile	103
Hindoostan, ...	104
Austria, ...	110
France, ...	164
England, ...	222

Thus we see that this so much vaunted population does not amount to one-half of that of England, compared with the relative extent of territory of each country.

The cause of the apparently excessive population of China, arises from the provinces being very unequally peopled, and the over-crowded portion of the country being that to which foreigners generally, if not solely, had access. There are, in fact, but four provinces, out of the fifteen into which the empire is divided, that are densely inhabited, these embrace but little more than one-fourth of the entire area, yet contain above two-thirds of the population.

The circumstances connected with emigration have been also ill-understood, and therefore much misrepresented. The following summary of the information given in this

curious document will serve to shew the real state of the case, and in some measure, to develop the grounds of the misconception. The emigrations of the Chinese take place chiefly from the four southern maritime provinces. The emigrants direct their course to every neighbouring country where there is any hope of finding employment and protection. They are excluded, like the European nations, from settling in Japan, on political grounds; the government of Cochin-China affords them no great encouragement, from the same reason, and the Dutch and Spanish governments of Java and the Philippines have always looked on them with much suspicion. Distance, and the existence of a dense and comparatively industrious population, exclude them from the British possessions in Hindoostan, where there are only a few shoemakers and other artisans from that country, and these confined to Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

Every emigrant who leaves China, does so with the intention of returning to it, although comparatively few are able to accomplish this object. The expense of emigration to the countries to which the Chinese usually resort, amounts to very little. Yet even the slender sum required, is commonly paid from the fruits of the emigrant's labour on his arrival, and seldom in advance. They are invariably of the labouring classes, and their whole equipment for the voyage consists of little else than the coat on their back, a bundle of old clothes, and a dirty mat and pillow to sleep on. They no sooner land than their condition is wonderfully improved. They meet their countrymen, and find immediate employment in a congenial climate where the wages of labour are, perhaps, three times as high as in China, and the necessities of life cheaper by half.

The Chinese are not only intellectually, but physically, superior to the nations among whom they settle. A Chinese is, at least, two inches taller than a Siamese, and by three inches taller than a Cochin-Chinese, a Malay, or a Javanese, and his frame is proportionably strong and well built. Their superiority in personal skill, dexterity, and ingenuity, is still greater. The wages of a Chinese labourer at Singapore, are eight dollars a month, and of a Malay, four; thus proving the work of the former to be of double the value of that of the latter.

The different classes of Chinese settlers not only live apart and keep distinct from those of other nations, but from each other. There is a wide difference between their character, habits, and manners, according to the provinces from which they proceed. The emigrants from the town of Canton, besides being addicted to mercantile pursuits, are the best artisans, and are much disposed to enter into mining speculations. It is they who are chiefly employed in working the silver mines of Tonquin, the gold mines of Borneo, and of the Malay peninsula, and the tin mines of the latter country, and of Banca. The Chinese of Macao, and the other islands, are held in very little repute by the rest of their countrymen, but those of the mountainous districts, who are numerous, are the lowest in rank. Their most frequent employment is that of fishermen and mariners; and it is from their ranks that European shipping, when in want, have occasionally received hands. Of all the Chinese, these are the most noisy and unruly.

The Chinese settlers, of whatever class,

engage with much eagerness in agricultural employments, seldom, however, unless through necessity, as day labourers. They conduct, almost exclusively, the cultivation and manufacture of the catechu or terra Japonica in the strait of Malacca, the pepper cultivation of Siam, and the culture of the cane, and the manufacture of sugar in Java, Siam, and the Philippines. Differing materially from each other in manners, habits, and almost always in language, and dialect, and entertaining towards each other provincial prejudices and antipathies; broils and quarrels, sometimes even attended with bloodshed, frequently break out among them. These are occasionally subjects of embarrassment in the European settlements; but nothing is to be apprehended from their systematic combination or resistance; for of all the Asiatic inhabitants of our eastern dependencies, the Chinese are the most obedient to the laws, and, notwithstanding the superior amount of their property, and even of their numbers, afford the least employment to the courts of justice.

The emigrant population from China is of a peculiar description, consisting, for the most part, of adult males, and of very few women, or children, a circumstance easily explained.—The laws of China, which prohibit emigration in general, are a dead letter, as far as the men are concerned; but it is imperative in respect to women and children, or, perhaps, more strictly, the manners and feelings of the people themselves, prevent the latter from quitting the country. The person who gives this part of the evidence, and who had resided many years in the British dependencies, states that he had never seen or heard of a female among the emigrants, and never saw a Chinese woman, except at Hué, the capital of Cochin-China, where two or three were pointed out as objects of curiosity, who had been kidnapped, and brought there when children. The emigrants, however, without scruple, form connexions with the females of the country, and the descendants of these repeatedly intermarrying with Chinese, are in time not to be distinguished from the genuine Chinese, either in features or complexion. But in countries where the settlers have been only recently established, the disproportion of the sexes is immense. Thus, out of the 6,200 Chinese inhabitants of Singapore, the number of females is but 360, and even of these, the greater part are Chinese only in name. The number of emigrants who return to China, though considerable, is very small in comparison with the arrivals. Even of those, the greater number come back again. There are resident in the British settlements, Chinese emigrants, men of property, who have visited China, and returned with titles.

The evidence details a great number of facts relative to the culture and exportation of tea, highly worthy of notice. The excellence of the herb is attributed chiefly to the attention paid to its culture; hence it is, that though the tree itself is a hardy plant, thriving under a great variety of climate, the marketable commodity produced from it is very inferior in all other countries to that of China. Like the grape, it also differs in flavour from difference of soil and management, and there is as much difference between the choice teas conveyed overland to Russia, and those sent to Europe, as between the claret and Burgundy wines of France. It is also said that the fla-

vour of the plant is much deteriorated by the sea voyage.

As to the prices, which involves a great political and commercial question, now agitated with much energy, we must refer our readers to the document itself, which will, in this and other respects, amply repay the trouble of disentangling the facts, from the tedious and complicated tissue of question and answer in which they are involved.

*The Picture of India; Geographical, Historical, and Descriptive.* 2 vols. post 8vo.—London, Whittaker, Treacher and Co.

THIS is a sensible and valuable compilation, on a subject which is not generally well understood; and which derives additional interest at present, from forming a principal topic of legislative inquiry, consequent upon the approaching application for a renewal of the company's charter. The work embraces a vast variety of information on the history, geography, climate, soil, productions, languages, and condition of the native population, as well as on the relative position of their British governors, and the nature and extent of the European power in India. This part of the subject is put prominently forward in the introduction:—

“Not only the chief commerce, but the actual sovereignty of the greatest and most valuable portion of India, is in our hands; and we exercise a controul over the rest, which, judging from the past, must, if the present state of matters continue, soon assume the name of that sovereignty, of which it is even now the reality. From the evidence of all past history, as well as from the issues of all Indian wars since the British power was what we may call consolidated in India, it may be assumed as true, that there is not a prince within the whole natural limits of the country, not a ruler over any portion of the two hundred millions of inhabitants, but really holds his throne, under whatever name it may be held, by sufferance of British power, and must render it up, upon whatever terms may be proposed, the very first time that that power is manifested against him. It avails nothing to say that patriotism, the spirit of the Indian people, would or may rise up; for in the course of more than two thousand years the people of that country have shown no patriotism; and, though we had not a good reason for arriving at the conclusion upon other grounds, that would be about as strong a proof as such cases admit of, that they have none to shew: and why should they?—it would be of no advantage to them. There might be intrigues, as there have been, arising from the ambition of native adventurers: and, as has been the case before, these might be fomented by other enemies of Britain in times of war; but “the sinews of war” are now under her controul, and without these, little could be done with a people who have been passive in their transfers from one conqueror to another, whether foreign or domestic, since the days of Sesostrius.

“This is an extent of empire, or rather a numerical tale of subjects, of which the annals of the world hardly afford a parallel. Russia, whose territorial extent is probably the greatest, does not number one third of it; and the greatest empire of antiquity, or that of the Moguls at its utmost extent, was probably still more inferior—at least it is certain